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the closing days of the eighteenth century has been, or rather is being transformed into a nobler collectivism through the court's interpretation of liberty and property. For this part of the book the author is due the gratitude of students and publicists. They will also be glad to have the annotated text of the Constitution in the appendix. However, in spite of a few additions of very recent cases, it is doubtful if this is any improvement over the text published in the House Manual.⁴ Indeed, the latter has one very distinct superiority in that, by means of reference numbers, it indicates to what particular part of any section the case cited refers. Unless Mr. Taylor is the author of this text also, it certainly is strange that he should have copied verbatim some of the historical footnotes without quotation marks or acknowledgment of any kind.

DAVID Y. THOMAS.

The First Decade of the Australian Commonwealth: A Chronicle of Contemporary Politics, 1901-1910. By HENRY GILES TURNER. (Melbourne: Mason, Firth & M'Cutcheon, 1911. Pp. 320.)

Mr. Turner, who is already known as the author of the standard history of the colony of Victoria, has rendered a notable service to those who are interested in Australian politics by issuing this timely volume. It is distinctly a study in politics. The parties and their platforms, the legislation of the various sessions, the frequent changes in ministries, are all described. When the Commonwealth was inaugurated, in 1901, much was expected from it. That so little was accomplished in the first decade was due to the unstable equilibrium of the parties. Eight ministries in ten years indicate the lack of continuity in policies. The first session of the present labor administration can boast of an unusual number of striking enactments, such as the Australian Notes, the Federal Land Tax, the two sweeping proposed amendments to the Constitution and the Northern Territory acts. In dealing with such recent and much-disputed topics the point of view of the author must be borne in mind. Mr. Turner was for many years the president of one of the great banks of Victoria although at the same time interested in historical and literary work. Naturally

⁴ 60th Congress, 2d session.

he is hardly in sympathy with the present administration of the Commonwealth, yet his treatment is unusually fair and temperate, and in this respect differs considerably from much of the special pleading that has been written about Australia. His work will be appreciated by all those who have tried to follow the devious course of Australian politics.

PAYSON J. TREAT.

Principes de Droit Public. By MAURICE HAURIUO. (Paris: Larose and Tenin, 1911. Pp. xi, 734.)

This is a companion volume to Professor Hauriou's treatise on Administrative Law, the seventh edition of which is reviewed elsewhere in this number of the REVIEW. It was written, we are told, to meet the demand for a text-book, the need of which was created by a recent decree of the French government requiring an examination in public law, including the theory of the state, for the doctorate. There were already a number of excellent French manuals on the market, notably those of Esmein and Duguit on *Droit Constitutionnel* but Hauriou's work is entirely different in character and scope from either of these. Their treatises are much more practical and concrete in their methods of treatment and aside from several preliminary chapters on the principles of public law, they deal mainly with the constitutional law of France. Hauriou's work, on the contrary, is distinctly theoretical. It is largely a treatise on the state with special reference to its social and philosophical aspects. It treats the state from the subjective point of view and hardly at all as an objective institution. It begins with a consideration of the subject of public law from the point of view of order and equilibrium. Ancient writers, we are told, emphasized the first of these viewpoints. They considered that there was a preëstablished order of things to which the law must be made to conform. Modern writers, on the other hand, emphasize juridical relations. Modern law is essentially a system of equilibria, social, juridical, economic, political, etc. Thus there is an equilibrium between the national and foreign forces; the central administration is counterbalanced by the local administration; there is an equilibrium between the executive and the legislative powers, between the Senate and the Chamber of Deputies, between economic and political forces, between the civil power and the military power, between public life and private